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C. A. MENET, Representative.



SATURDAY, JULY 17, 1901.

NOT WHOLLY SATISFACTORY, BUT—

The special committee upon Public Utilities has agreed upon a bill, not unanimously, however, for two of the eleven members did not vote. It provides for the creation of a Public Utilities commission, having three members at a salary of \$3,000 each, a clerk and an office in the Capitol, and authorized to employ accountants, engineers, experts, etc., at a cost not exceeding appropriations to be made by the General Assembly. The members are to be appointed by the Governor with the consent of the Senate, one to hold office to July 1, 1911, one to same date in 1913 and the third to 1915; then, one to be appointed biennially to a six year term. Its records are to be open to public inspection.

The jurisdiction of the commission is limited to incorporated telephone, gas and electric lighting and water companies and to municipalities furnishing these public facilities. Railroad, trolley and electric power corporations are not included.

Blanks calling for facts are to be furnished to corporations for sworn replies, the penalty for refusing or neglecting to reply being \$25 a day, and if not found satisfactory, amended returns may be demanded, under the same penalty.

Corporations must furnish "reasonable proper and adequate service"; must maintain their plants in "reasonably good condition"; may, with the commission's approval, contract with or acquire other corporations, and must take "reasonable precautions" on highways and public grounds to prevent injury to persons or property.

They may increase capital stock or issue bonds, but stockholders are liable for unpaid balances on their shares; shall not issue shares unless paid for in full at par, the penalty being a fine not exceeding \$1,000; must report in full detail, sales of shares for other consideration than cash—penalty, fine not exceeding \$1,000; if commission finds over-valuation in such cases, the Attorney General shall bring action, and those who knowingly profit thereby, shall forfeit the profit to the State, and in addition restore the profit to the corporation, and any one abetting such a transaction shall be liable to a fine not exceeding \$1,000.

If any corporation has not, for two years next preceding a stock issue, earned more than 4 per cent. it may issue full paid stock for cash at prices fixed by its directors.

Issues of bonds must be registered with the State Comptroller; when cancelled, others to the same amount may be issued, with the commission's approval, and the commission must approve unless the value of the property and franchises mortgaged "is less than 50 per cent. greater than the aggregate of all the bonds" previously issued and uncanceled, together with the bonds to be issued; the commission may approve bonds "to take up prior indebtedness" or whenever it is deemed best for the interest of the corporation "and not against the public interest."

Corporations may erect, construct or maintain in highways or public grounds, pipes, wires, etc., but must first present their plan to the municipal authorities who may accept or modify them, in which event the corporation may appeal to this commission, neglect of the municipality to either accept or modify to be considered a rejection.

Telephone corporations shall not place poles, wires, etc., on or under public highways or grounds, or change their location, without the consent of land owners, but telephone or electric companies may petition the commission for a finding of "public convenience and necessity" and for an appraisal of damages, and under such finding and appraisal, and with the commission's consent, the corporation may proceed.

Officers shall, upon request, be inspected in order to determine proper charges; they shall also be inspected monthly to ascertain the quality and purity of gas, if so requested by municipal authorities, and if the gas falls below a standard fixed by the commission, the company shall make proportionate deductions to its customers; municipalities may buy proper apparatus to be used in the tests, as may also the company but it may only use meters approved by the commission.

Any person injured by the failure of corporations to give "proper and adequate service" may complain to the commission which shall investigate and, finding cause, shall recommend a proper remedy; in the event of non-compliance by the corporation, the Attorney General may bring suit to enforce compliance.

The commission is authorized to

send for persons and papers and to take testimony under oath, the penalty for refusal being a fine not exceeding \$1,000.

All acts and parts of acts inconsistent herewith are repealed, and this act is to take effect upon its passage. Such is a summary of the bill agreed upon by the special committee. It is less drastic than the one reported by a special commission, and yet sufficiently so to gain the active opposition of the corporation. The best feature is the prohibition of stock watering and over-issuance of bonds. Rate regulation is omitted except as to gas, and that is covered only when the quality falls below the standard.

The bill is not all that was desired, but possibly it is all—perhaps more—than can be secured from the present General Assembly which was packed against the creation of a public utilities commission but may not dare to carry out the full purpose of the rackers and reject the pending bill.

STRATFORD

The Garden Fete—The Sillock House—Sermons on Sunday—The Business of Promoting—Failed to Pass—Fancy Dances—Where Our Folks are Stopping.

The Ladies' Aid Society which held a garden fete on the Cogswell lawn last Thursday evening, took in over \$80.

The statement has been made that the owners of the Sillock property would be willing to sell for \$18,000. This might be a very good investment for the town, which, in the school houses, should look ahead at least 50 years. The grounds about the Sillock house are all that could be desired, and the location is the best which can be had.

Two sermons will be delivered to-morrow at the Congregational church. Dr. Packard in the morning "The Value of a Man." In the evening "Bearing Other People's Faults." The Sunday school will be held at 11 a. m. in the chapel. At Christ Church, to-morrow, there will be Holy Communion at 8 o'clock in the morning; sermon at 10:30 and Sunday school at noon. Rev. Mr. Farrar has not as yet gone upon his vacation. In the morning at the Methodist church he will preach on the "Enlarged Life," and in the evening his topic will be "The Dark Companion." There will be a class meeting at 10 o'clock in the morning, and the Epworth league will meet at 2 p. m.

The usual services will be held in all the colored Baptist churches, in the Bethany Mission, and at the Neighborhood church.

On the 28th of this month the Episcopal church will give a picnic to its young folks at Beardsley Park. Before going to the park there will be a trolley ride to Fairfield and back.

Mr. Ivan Morehouse of this town has become a member of the bar. He is a report that "Dot Sumner," has been in town. A bit of hot winter would be very acceptable.

Miss Emma Rogers is at Highland Lake for a few days.

Mrs. DeLorme has been visiting in town. Mr. and Mrs. Julian Clinton are in North Adams, Mass.

It is said the Posttuck Yacht club is a good place to take one's supper, if the day is hot and a breeze is blowing.

Deacon P. P. Haven's house is much improved in appearance since it received a lighter coat of paint. It used to be of a very dark green color.

It is said that only one of the young lady graduates from the high school has been successful in passing entrance examinations to college. This is too bad. If the secret gets out how good people may abolish the high school.

Miss Marjorie Stillman has made a brief visit to New York. Miss Eda Falken is likely to return to California early in August. A friend will probably go to California.

The Bethany Mission people will go to Walnut beach on the 4th of August. Three sisters and three brothers, of the local grade, are to have a competitive talk on the evening of the 24th. We bet on the three sisters. The men will have to put up the ice cream.

Mr. and Mrs. E. J. Taylor, Charles Silliman, George K. Wilson, Margaret DeLacour, Joseph Gunn and Maynard Smith. The young ladies in attendance were Misses Mary Falken to Ruth Haven, Elsie Smith, Harriet Blake-man, Frances Blakeman, Arlene Curtis, Helen Smith, Amy Talbot, Alice Curtis and Alice Judson, and Miss Packard.

The Devon Sunday school held its picnic last Wednesday.

FAIRFIELD

New Memorial Window—A Historical Sermon—Descendants of Dr. Elliot—"Poppea"—New Series of Postal Cards—Personals.

Yesterday the cables for the electric lights were being rapidly put in place, from pole to pole, and it can be but a short time now when the lighting problem will be solved.

On Monday the new window presented to the Congregational church by Mr. J. Sanford Saltus, will have arrived in town from the Tiffany studios in New York, and workmen will begin to place it in the position which it is to occupy. The work is known as jewel or mosaic glass, and will be a companion piece to the window presented a year or so ago by Miss Anna B. Jennings. It will fill the larger of the three spaces in the northern side of the auditorium, and is to the memory of Rev. Andrew Elliot, who was the pastor of the church from 1774 to 1840. The window contains two medallions, the upper one representing a mass of palms, and the lower one the tree of life.

Mr. Carrington Beeman is spending his summer in town. Miss Theodora Child arrived home from New York last Thursday. Six horses were sent this week from the estate of Mr. O. G. Jennings to his place at Newport.

The men who are making the very extensive alterations on the R. E. Curtis house on Pequot avenue, Southport, are Mr. Forsythe, who is doing the carpenter work, Mr. Plannagan, plumbing; Mr. J. C. Cobb, mason work and Mr. Matson the painting.

The Fortnightly Sewing Circle has held its last meeting for the season at the residence of Miss Kippen.

Misses Dunlap and Lydia Perry are at their old home in Greenfield Hill

for the summer. Rev. J. B. Kettle, formerly pastor at Greenfield Hill, is to visit his old parishioners in August.

Mr. Herman Perry is working for C. H. Godfrey, the contractor, of Southport.

Mr. James Bergen, of Springfield, Mass., was visiting in town yesterday.

Mr. Frank Sturges is having his "Gray house" repainted by A. J. Benway & Co.

Mrs. Webber, of New York, who has been passing the summer at the beach died on Thursday. Her remains were sent to New York yesterday afternoon. The lawn fete given on Thursday for the Fresh Air Fund netted nearly \$400. This is the largest sum ever contributed in this way. Mr. Boyle assisted very materially in decorating the grounds at the Sherman parsonage with flags, etc. He also sent over an auto full of fans. No Japanese lanterns were used in the scheme.

A week from to-morrow, at the morning service, Rev. Frank S. Child will deliver a memorial and dedicatory sermon apropos the setting up of the costly window to the memory of Rev. Andrew Elliot, who was one of the most patriotic preachers in the state during the Revolutionary struggle. The title of the sermon will be "Andrew Elliot and the Connecticut Ministers of the American Revolution." Mr. J. Sanford Saltus, who has presented the window, is a direct descendant of Mr. Elliot. And it appears that this divine has numerous descendants in Bridgeport, most of whom propose to attend the service. These include such families as the Nash, Butler, Miller, Nichols, Wheeler, Barker, Saltus and Miss Joy. The sermon is to be published in the form, uniform with the one delivered when the Jennings windows were dedicated. Rev. Mr. Elliot came from an old and distinguished Massachusetts family, his grandfather being at one time pastor of the Old North Church in Boston.

Mrs. Margaret Beach has having her new house decorated. The Benways have the job.

The Governors of the Greenfield Club held a meeting last Thursday to talk over matters concerning the coming fair.

Miss Mabel Pickett has a new canoe. The rumor that she is "Poppea of the Postoffice," is probably a mere guess. Relatives of Attorney C. King, are visiting him from Wilmant's. It is announced that Miss Harriet Glover has gone to Bar Harbor, Me., for three weeks.

Two lots on Fairfield beach have been sold to Mrs. Cora S. Hill of Danbury.

We are told that Mrs. Wright says her "Poppea" is the first real out and out long story she has ever written. Every one is anxious to know what the heroine did in the postoffice. She had a fine chance to read postal cards.

When Miss Helen Gould was in town recently she expressed the wish that some really artistic photo cards be made of local scenery. To this end an artist was sent up from Eastman's kodak place in New York, and a series of 18 beautiful photographs was taken. These are interesting pictures as well as good photographs, and include two views of the Gould homestead, the "Cottage" the residence of Mr. Sturges, the Cape Silliman home of 1745, the Roger Sherman Place, 18 Square showing also the handsome house of Dr. Donaldson, Greenfield Hill, its church and its club house, Mill Plain, St. Thomas church, Sturges farms with a herd of blooded cattle, the Congregational church, and various street views. All of these can be had at the Boyle pharmacy.

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vs.
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TICKETS 25 CENTS
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BASEBALL, Newfield Park

BRIDGEPORT.....JULY 22
HOLYOKE.....JULY 23
WATERBURY.....JULY 24
Games Called at 3:30

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Prize games for young and old.

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26 Piece Silver Set Free to Some Lady Monday Matinee.

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Miss Mabel Montgomery, famous Belasco Star, has been engaged by Mr. Poli as leading woman. She will appear week of July 26 in the great mystery play, "THE HOUSE OF A THOUSAND CANDLES," supported by Poli's All-Star Stock Company.

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1,000 2,800 6 " 1,000

1,500 3,500 5 1/2 " 2,000

3,500 4,500 6 " 2,000

3,500 6,000 6 " 4,000

4,000 7,500 6 " 4,500

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JULY 15th, 1909

Business hours Saturdays 8 A. M. to 1 P. M.

For the accommodation of the public the office will be kept open from

8 A. M. TO 8 P. M.

Mondays, July 12th and 19th, 1909.